

Charles Nicholas, 81, dies; was a co-organizer of CIA

Charles Parsons Nicholas, a retired Army brigadier general who helped organize the Central Intelligence Agency shortly after World War II, died yesterday at Baptist Hospital Highlands. He was 81 and lived at 3820 Leland Road.

Nicholas, a native of Shelbyville, spent his boyhood in Louisville. In 1925, after graduating from Louisville Male High School, he entered the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N. Y.

During World War II he chaired an armed services committee that evaluated intelligence reports on enemy secret weapons. After the war, he was one of eight men named to organize the CIA.

Nicholas, who taught mathematics at West Point from 1930 to 1932, returned to the academy in 1959 as chairman of the mathematics department. He retired from the military in 1967 after 42 years of service.

Nicholas was awarded the Legion of Merit for his achievements in wartime and again for his work in intelligence. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal on retirement. He also was an honorary trustee of West Point.

Survivors include his wife, the for-

mer Frances Allen; a daughter, Mrs. Stephen Fassett of Cambridge, Mass.; and three grandchildren.

The body will be cremated.

A graveside service will be held later in the U.S. Military Academy Cemetery at West Point.

The family requests that expressions of sympathy take the form of contributions to charity.

Pearson's, 149 Breckinridge Lane, is in charge of arrangements.